

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~comprising: of controlling usage of a portable digital device having at least one of an audio recording function and an image data recording function, the method including:~~

determining based on a comparison of geographic coordinates whether [[the]] a first portable digital device is within a ~~dynamically adjustable~~ specific geographic region around a second ~~another~~ portable digital device, wherein a size of the specific geographic region changes is dynamically adjustable in response to a change in a location of the second ~~other~~ portable digital device; and

inhibiting an operation of [[said]] the first portable digital device upon receipt of a first inhibiting signal transmitted by the second ~~said another~~ portable digital device in response to when said the first portable digital device [[is]] being located in [[said]] the specific geographic region around the second ~~said another~~ portable digital device.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising receiving a second inhibiting signal ~~having a transmission originating~~ from a fixed location security station in the specific geographic region, and disabling at least one of [[the]] an audio data recording function and or an image data recording function of the first portable digital device in response to receipt of the first or second inhibiting signal.

3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising enabling at least one of an audio data recording function or an image data recording function in response to the first portable digital device being located outside the specific geographic region, wherein said portable digital device is configured so that when said device is outside the specific geographic region, said at least one of the audio and image data recording function is functional.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2, further comprising repeating the second inhibiting signal by the first portable digital device to broaden coverage of the fixed location security station, wherein at least one portable device is used as a repeater to broaden coverage of the second inhibiting signal transmitted by said fixed location security station.
5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein [[the]] inhibiting the operation includes comprises inhibiting the operation of [[said]] at least one of [[said]] an audio data recording function and or an image data recording function of [[said]] the first portable digital device in response to when said the first portable digital device [[is]] being located in the specific geographic region.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising monitoring determining a geographic location of the first portable digital device using a navigation module ~~selected from the group: GPS, GSM, GPRS, MA, UTMS and 3G.~~
7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising monitoring determining a geographic location of the first portable digital device by triangulation of signals from at least two cellular base stations.
8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising including storing data relating to [[said]] the first portable digital device being detected as being present in the specific geographic region.
9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein inhibiting the [[said]] operation comprises inhibiting the operation is inhibited for at least a predetermined period of time before the operation can be enabled again.
10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising; wherein the portable digital device has a memory and wherein the method further comprises:
 - modifying [[the]] a memory of the first portable digital device to indicate that the inhibiting of the operation has occurred, and
 - checking whether the memory has been modified to indicate that the inhibiting of the operation has occurred before allowing access to at least one of an audio data recording function or an image the data recording function.

11. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein further comprising receiving the first inhibiting signal is received at the first portable digital device using a communication scheme transmitting over at least one radio frequency; the communication scheme selected from the group supported by GSM, GPRS, 3G, 1-Mode, UTMS, Ultrawideband (UWB) wireless data standard and/or CDMA.
12. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, further comprising changing a frequency of the at least one radio frequency at an interval, wherein at least one frequency used to transmit the first inhibiting signal is changed at intervals to improve security.
13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising communicating wherein the first inhibiting signal is communicated to the first portable digital device the form of as an audio signal or a signal transmitted at an optical frequency.
14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising including installing accessing usage control code on the first portable digital device for performing the control of controlling usage of the first portable digital device.
15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 14, further comprising initiating execution of wherein the usage control code is installed in a memory within the first portable digital device.
16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising including modifying code within the first portable digital device relating to [[the]] at least one of an audio data recording function and an image data recording function and preventing [[said]] the code from being executed by the first portable digital device.
17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising including:
detecting disconnection of the first portable digital device from a communications network, and preventing one of modifying a modification to a normal-store operation and a normal transmission operation relating to captured data upon in response to detecting the disconnection of the first portable digital device has been disconnected from the communications network.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising including:
detecting an attempted operation of ~~[[said]]~~ a data recording function in response to when said the
first portable digital device ~~[[is]]~~ being located in the specific geographic region, and
preventing a normal store operation relating to data captured by the data recording function.
19. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 17, further comprising including deleting the
captured data from the first portable digital device.
20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 17, further comprising including transmitting
the captured data relating to the first portable digital device to a security entity.
21. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~[[17]]~~, further comprising including
broadcasting a source-identifying signal to the specific geographical region.
22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ broadcasting the source-
identifying signal comprises broadcasting an audio tone or a series of optical signals.
23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, further comprising transmitting data sent
over a network to a security entity based on a determination of whether the data includes a recording of
the source-identifying signal, including checking if data transmitted over a network includes a recording
of the source-identifying signal, and transmitting the data to a security entity instead of an intended
recipient.
24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising disabling at least one
function of the first portable digital device in response to receiving of a third inhibiting signal transmitted
by a portable security station intermittently broadcasting the third inhibiting signal in the specific
geographic region, wherein a security station is fitted on board a vehicle, said security station
broadcasting/transmitting an inhibiting or disabling signal intermittently in the specific geographic region,
and at least one function of the portable digital device being disabled on receipt of the signal.
25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method, ~~of controlling transmission of data over a communications network, the method~~ comprising:

~~a first portable digital device detecting at a first portable digital device an attempted transmission of data comprising including a source-identifying signal broadcast by a second portable digital device in a dynamically-adjustable specific geographic region around [[said]] the first portable digital device, and the first portable digital device sending an inhibiting signal to the second portable digital device to inhibit the attempted transmission of data including the source-identifying signal by [[said]] the second portable digital device in response to determining, when it is determined based on a comparison of geographic coordinates, that [[said]] the second portable digital device is located in [[said]] the dynamically-adjustable specific geographic region around [[said]] the first portable digital device, wherein a size of the specific geographic region changes is dynamically-adjustable in response to a change in location of the first portable digital device.~~

27. (Canceled)

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for capturing security information relating to a portable digital device which includes an imaging function, said method~~ comprising operating enabling operation of [[said]] an imaging image data recording function on a portable digital device in response to an interrogation or enabling signal from a central station and returning [[an]] a recorded image to [[said]] the central station in response to [[said]] the interrogation or enabling signal.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) ~~A computer-readable medium encoded with computer-executable instructions for controlling a portable digital device including the function of recording at least one of audio and visual imaging data, said~~ A tangible computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, the instructions comprising:

~~computer-executable instructions for determining based on a comparison of geographic coordinates if when said a first portable digital device is located in a dynamically-adjustable specific geographic region around another a second portable digital device; and~~

~~computer-executable instructions for inhibiting operation of said audio-recording/imaging a data recording application of the first portable digital device in response to when said the first portable digital device receives receiving an inhibiting signal transmitted by said another the second portable digital device and [[said]] the first portable digital device being is determined-to-be located in [[said]] the dynamically-adjustable specific geographic region, wherein a size of the specific geographic region changes is dynamically-adjustable in response to a change in location of the second [[other]] portable digital device.~~

36. (Canceled)

37. (Currently Amended) ~~A system, comprising: of controlling usage of an inhibited portable digital device having at least one of an audio-recording function and an image data-recording function, the system including:~~

~~an inhibited inhibiting portable digital device that configured to receive transmits an inhibiting signal; and~~

~~an inhibiting module of the inhibited portable digital device configured to determine, that determines based on a comparison of geographic coordinates, whether the inhibited portable digital device is within a dynamically-adjustable specific geographic region around [[said]] an inhibiting portable digital device, and inhibits inhibit operation of [[said]] the inhibited portable digital device upon receipt of the inhibiting signal transmitted by said inhibiting portable digital device when said in response to the inhibited portable digital device [[is]] being located in [[said]] the dynamically-adjustable specific geographic region around [[said]] the inhibiting portable digital device, wherein a size of the specific geographic region changes is dynamically-adjustable in response to a change in location of the inhibiting portable digital device.~~